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Afghanistan Situation Report (U)

25 October 1982

TRANSCRIPTION - ORIGINAL FOLLOWS

AFGHANISTAN SITUATION REPORT

[LINES EXCISED]

PERSPECTIVE

AFGHAN REFUGEES: [3 WORDS ILLEG] FOR PAKISTAN

The Afghan refugees will present a problem of increasing complexity and growing threat to Pakistan's internal stability throughout the [word illeg] [word excised].

This document is prepared usually by the office of Near East/South Asia and the Office of Soviet Analysis. Questions or comments on the issues raised in [2 words illeg] should be directed to [words excised].

CONFIDENTIAL

REFLECTIVE

AFGHAN REFUGEES: LONG-TERM IMPACT FOR PAKISTAN 6

The Afghan refugees will present a problem of increasing complexity and growing threat to Pakistan's internal stability throughout the 1980s.

This document is prepared weekly by the Office of Near East/South Asia and is one of Soviet Analysts. Questions or comments on the document should be directed to [redacted]

PERSPECTIVE

AFGHAN REFUGEES: LONG-TERM BURDEN FOR PAKISTAN

[REDACTED]

Demographic Arithmetic. We expect that the Afghan refugees will present a problem of increasing complexity. [REDACTED] We believe that the sheer size of the refugee population--the largest in the world--will strain the government's ability to accommodate the refugees. [REDACTED]

The US Census Bureau estimated that there were 2.5 million refugees in Pakistan as of mid-1982, based on the numbers of refugees registered by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees between 1979 and the end of 1981, estimated net gains of 25,000 during 1982, and the estimated number of births and deaths occurring in the refugee population. The Census Bureau projects that the refugee population will reach 2.7 million by 1985 and 3.2 million by 1990, even assuming that no additional refugees will arrive or be repatriated after 1982.*

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] the economic costs have been high. The government estimates its assistance costs for 1982-83 at \$555 million--over and above aid provided by international relief organizations for

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] We believe that the US Census Bureau estimate, based on both UN camp registrations and documented demographic growth assumptions, is reasonable and can be used with some degree of confidence. [REDACTED]

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Social Tensions

Most refugees are Pushtun tribesmen who, according to local and national Pakistani sources, have been received as brothers by the Pakistani Pushtuns of the North-West Frontier Province and Baluchistan, and as Muslim brothers in need by all Pakistanis.

Islamabad, which is concerned that unrest could be exploited by Soviet-sponsored agents, has adopted preventive measures:

--Refugee camps have been deliberately situated away from more populous centers.

--Refugee areas are rigorously policed.

--Grazing, water, and land rights have been carefully defined between locals and refugees.

--Where resentment toward refugee aid has been vocal, local inhabitants have been granted aid commensurate with that given to the refugees, or restitution has been made by the government to the aggrieved party.